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South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 3, NO. 25

50 CENTS

FEBRUARY 25, 2000

South Plainfield Bids Farewell to DeLair

South Plainfield said good-bye last Friday to Police Officer Mark DeLair who died last week in a single car accident when his car hit a tree on Park Ave. The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

The large numbers of mourners who gathered outside McCriskin Funeral Home on Thursday evening stretched several blocks down Plainfield Avenue as people waited to pay their final respects to the South Plainfield police officer.

As snow fell Friday morning, South Plainfield police cars led the somber procession to Sacred Heart RC Church on South Plainfield Avenue. As the funeral procession passed both the rescue squad and the fire department buildings, members stood at attention saluting.

A plaque containing Mark's



29, touched many lives in his short life and the grief was evident on the faces of his fellow officers. He had been a police officer for three years and had also worked as a 9-1-1 dispatcher for five years here.

The procession to the church included police cars from many New Jersey towns, including Plainfield, Dunellen, Edison, Bound Brook, Piscataway, Monmouth, Red Bank and NJ State Police. The official cars filled up half of the parking lot at Sacred Heart Church.

The Somerset County Fife & Drum Corps played while DeLair's casket was carried from both the funeral home and church.

After the mass, the funeral procession left Sacred Heart Church to escort Mark to his final resting place, Rosedale Cemetery in Linden.

Ceremonies at the cemetery included a 21 gun salute, taps played by SPHS students Jennifer Csack, Joe Reach and Steve Janizak, and a presentation of the American flag to DeLair's parents.

DeLair is survived by his parents Robert and Linda, as well three brothers, David, Andrew and John.

The family is asking that memorial donations in his memory be made to the South Plainfield PBA Local #100, c/o South Plainfield Police Department, 2480 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

To Mark DeLair

The smile. That's what I've always thought about when I thought about this man. He had this big ole smile that could put you at ease. A smile that said, life is a good thing. No matter when. Now matter where. The smile was always there.

He was a big friendly kid. A teddy bear if you will. This teddy bear grew into a man. The kind of man that was good. The kind of man that made you proud to know him and be associated with him. It might be an old cliché but it can be applied most accurately in this case; "If the world had more people like him, then the world would be a much better place." Truer words couldn't be spoken.

Being human, as we all are, we battle the demons from time to time. For some, it might be alcohol. For others, drugs. For a great many, it's food. That was the teddy bear's battle. He fought hard. He fought strong. He fought the good fight. He realized a dream by winning this battle when he became an officer of the law. The legendary football coach Vince Lombardi once said, "The true measure of a man is not in never failing, but in rising every time you fall." The teddy bear rose to the challenge. He never quit. The smile was always there. The teddy bear is gone now. There are some things one can't explain. Why God wanted the teddy bear at this time is a question only God can answer. Maybe God just figured he needed the smile with him. Whatever the reason, our loss is definitely heaven's gain. The smile is going to light up the clouds and heavens for all to see.

To the DeLair family in your time of sorrow, you have my deepest sympathies. I hope these words comfort you. If there was a nicer man around, it would be a difficult chore finding him. Mark was a beautiful man. He will be missed. And while we cannot physically see the smile, trust me, the memory of his smile will always be in my heart.

May it always be in your heart as well.

A Friend

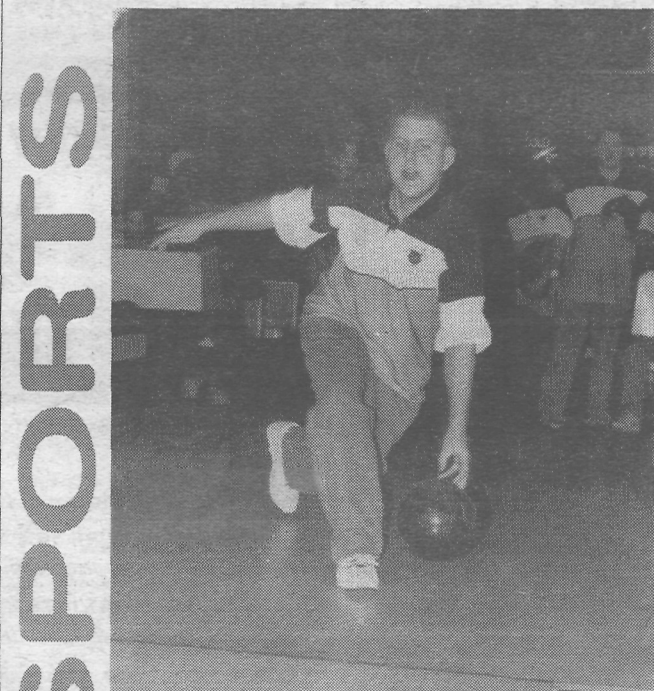
badge, was presented to his parents, Robert and Linda DeLair.

An honor guard escorted DeLair's body from the funeral home to the church and then on to the cemetery as police officers from all over the state as well as 9-1-1 dispatchers saluted.

Mark DeLair,



Police Officer Mark DeLair



SPHS Senior Matt Square faced fierce competition at the NJSIAA Individual Bowling Championship at Carolier Lanes on Feb. 19. After a slow start Matt came back and placed 26 in the NJ State High School Bowlers.



Wrestlers Win State Championship
The South Plainfield High School Wrestling Team took the State Championship Title at last week's tournament. See page 7 for complete coverage of the event.

In My Opinion

Letters

To the Editor,

I am writing as a concerned parent who attended the Feb. 15 Board of Education meeting on to hear the concerns of the teachers and why they are still working without a contract. My mind was open and I was anxious to hear the concerns and demands of the teachers. I sat and listened as the board went through the agenda. I was impressed by the time they all obviously put into their volunteer positions.

Then I heard Dawn Jefferys speak. She spoke about threatening telephone calls, harassing Christmas cards, unwanted letters, flowers and candy received at her home. I was shocked and appalled that the South Plainfield Education Association or SPEA did not condemn this behavior. What concerned me even more was the snickering I heard while Mrs. Jefferys spoke of this with obvious distress.

There were many parents in the room with questions regarding the contract talks, as well as questions relating to their child-

ren's education. No parents were afforded the opportunity to address the board regarding these matters because the behavior of certain members of the SPEA. Board President Doris Haley had no alternative but to adjourn the meeting due to the unruly and deplorable behavior of these members. I find it extremely difficult to sympathize with the SPEA when they promote behavior in a public forum that they would not tolerate from their students—our children.

My children have been in the South Plainfield school system for the past ten years. I have found there are many excellent teachers, who truly are concerned with the education and welfare of our children. Please, let us keep the education and welfare of our children a top priority; do not allow this contract dispute to distract our good teachers from giving our children the fine education they deserve.

SINCERELY,
ROBIN PRENDERGAST

PLEASE NOTE: Although **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** can be published with the name withheld, we must know who sent the letter. We have received a few letters without names or phone numbers to verify. We will not publish these letters. If you sent a letter and want it published, contact us at 668-0010. Your name will remain anonymous, but we must know your identity.

Enough is Enough!

This statement from Dawn Jefferys was read at the Board of Education meeting last week.

Two years ago I asked the residents of this community to elect me to this Board of Education. I did this because I believe in the preservation of public education. People who know me well know that I had no axe to grind, no vendetta. I simply wanted to be an active participant in the community where I have chosen to raise my family and ask that the bar be raised so that all children in South Plainfield would have the privilege of excellent education.

Since becoming a member of the board I have had the privilege of working with eight members who, like me, are concerned for the children and taxpayers and believe it or not, the staff. Each decision made is made by the majority of the members you see seated before you tonight. Each member of this board has his or her say in the process. We, as board of education members, do not work without the full consent of the majority—perhaps you are familiar with the term democracy?

As we have moved through negotiations, I have been mailed approximately 100 Christmas cards, of which some contained hateful messages and, by the way, were opened and read by my children. I have received letters from staff members and most recently have received flowers and candy. This is all an intrusion of my personal family life. My children do not understand this.

I am the same person I was when I ran for this board—a person who believes and supports public education. I was not anti-educator then and I am not anti-educator now and those educators who know me, know this to be true.

This weekend I was told some staff members are reporting to parents who inquire about evening conferences, that if they would like to know why they are not being held, they could blame Dawn Jefferys and Frank Mikorski. Yes, I do have the names of the staff members and the parents who reported this.

Perhaps the most disturbing

report to me this weekend was the statement that Dawn Jefferys and Frank Mikorski have refused to settle this contract retroactively. That in fact we have refused to consider retroactive payment at all. For the information of all present tonight, these rumors being circulated are outrageous lies. Retroactive payment was not ever discussed, we never made any such statement and this rumor should be discounted, totally.

Furthermore, Dawn Jefferys and Frank Mikorski do not unilaterally make decisions. It is with the full consent of the board that we move in the direction we do. Maybe the question to be asked should be what is going on in negotiations that have us at what appears to be a stand still?

Our children deserve much better than this environment. You as professionals deserve better than this. I would hope you would consider how unreasonable some of this drive is.

And last but certainly not least, my children, my home life are off limits. I know as professionals you will understand that. Leave my family out of these games you insist on playing, keep your cards, letters, flowers and candy; they are unwanted and unappreciated and it is a terrible waste of your union dues. For the record, the parent community also believes you have stepped over the line here.

Remember, I am a mother who wanted to make a difference in education in South Plainfield; every time I am attacked, every other parent is attacked as well. But by all means, I encourage you to stand united; I'll ask the parents of the 3,600 students of South Plainfield to do the same.

DAWN JEFFERYS
SP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Did You See What I Saw?

Let me preface my comments about the recent Board of Education meeting held at the Administration Building on Tuesday, Feb. 15 by saying that I have been a social studies teacher for 26 years in the city of Perth Amboy. I am also vice president for high school affairs for the American Federation of Teachers and recently served on the Perth Amboy Federation's negotiating team. I am not a life long resident of South Plainfield, but I've lived here long enough to have seen my son and

a daughter complete their education in the South Plainfield Public Schools and now attend Westminster Choir College and Stockton College, respectively, where they are both doing extremely well. My youngest daughter is currently a sophomore at South Plainfield High School and is actively involved in music, gymnastics and keeping statistics for the wrestling team.

What bothers me is that I read an account about that meeting in the *Observer* for Friday, Feb. 18 and I need to set the record straight. You know the expression, "I attended a hockey game and a fight broke out." Well mine is, "I attended a Board of Education meeting and a history lesson broke out." The article implies a scene of bedlam and chaos with screaming, yelling, etc. allowing no business to be accomplished, causing the inevitable closing of the session.

In actuality, the teachers gathered at the high school cafeteria and marched in a group chanting "Settle Now" to the beat of one drum. They entered the gymnasium where too few chairs were provided, but those who could, sat quietly. After the pledge of allegiance and admonishments from the chair about anticipated abusive conduct from the assembled mass, the meeting began. Committee reports were given, agenda items were voted on and two members of the board's negotiating team made statements about what they perceived as unfair treatment by members of the opposition.

Finally, it was time for the public portion of the meeting and the audience was allowed to speak. After the president of the association had done this, and the next member was beginning to speak is when the alleged chaos broke out. The chair immediately silenced the speaker, the meeting

Continued on next page

Submit Letters to the Editor:

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Letters may be submitted by email at our website at spobserver.com or faxed to 908-668-8819. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. We reserve the right to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject we will publish.

Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *Observer*.

Mark Your Calendars

BOROUGH MEETING DATES

Council Meetings

AGENDA MEETINGS	PUBLIC MEETINGS
Monday, March 6	Thursday, March 9
Monday, March 20	Thursday, March 23

Planning Board

Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, as follows:
March 14, March 28,

Zoning Board of Adjustment

First, third and fourth Tuesday of the month, as follows:
February 29, March 7, March 21

Site Place Sub-Committee

The fourth Thursday of the month as follows:
March 23, April 27

Log on to southplainfieldnj.com for the latest meeting agenda.

South Plainfield
Observer

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The *South Plainfield Observer* is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

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1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or Twice Is Nice, Front St. or fax us at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us on our web page at spobserver.com or ggnan@aol.com, or ngrennie@ix.netcom.com. Include your name, address, telephone number.

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Letters

Continued from page 2

was formally closed and the teachers rose and proceeded to walk out chanting "Settle Now."

The time has come to stop pointing fingers at each other and enter into serious negotiations for the sake of all concerned, but most of all for our children. Remember that board of education elections are just around the corner and it would be to everyone's advantage to settle sooner rather than later.

WAYNE OTLOWSKI

To Editor,

It is inappropriate to present information to the public that is not correct, as Mr. Pisanello did in his recent letter to the editor.

For example, the referendum is for \$22.6 million and not \$25 million. The student impact was based on information that there have been, or will be, approved for the following: 420 apartments, 19 single family homes, 355 condominiums and townhouses and since then an additional 38 units of condominiums are pending approval, as well as a number of single family homes. The demographer we used applied the 1.3 children per unit.

Mr. Pisanello said that taxes would increase from the original \$136 per year for a home assessed at \$113,400 to \$200 per year. This is not correct. There is an increase to \$141.98 per year due to an increase in interest rates, since December '99 interest rates have increased and may increase again.

I also resent the comparison of this Board to the spending actions of the Newark Board. I offer to meet with Mr. Pisanello to review the fiscal performance of the Board since 94/95. As a matter of fact, we reduced the school tax rate by three tax points for this current school year. In our District, since 94/95 to last week, the student population increased from 3,183 to 3,602 students, an increase of 419. This increase is without the impact of the units listed previously.

The referendum not only includes space for a new school, but additional classrooms, improvements to prepare for present and future technology and electric capacity improvements for each school. We must have facilities that enable our students to prepare for the future. It is also important to recognize the importance of an effective educational system can have on real estate values.

We are a growing community and this referendum is essential

to meet the requirements imposed on us by this growth.

FRANK A. MIKORSKI

To the Editor,

I am very disappointed in the South Plainfield Board of Education and the SPEA teachers union. Why would the BOE change the school calendar? It was fine how it was. As a parent of a senior and an eighth grader, we had plans all set for graduation. With family coming in from out of state, this creates a big problem. Other friends of ours with seniors have the same dilemma. So the kids have a short spring break! That's life. If the BOE changed it to give in to the teachers, then you all should be ashamed. Yes, I want this contract settled now, but it seems the BOE does not care about the students and their families.

As far as the teachers union goes, it's time to compromise. If you surveyed everyone in this town who works full time you would see that a 3-4% increase per year is the norm. I work for a major pharmaceutical company and I have to "walk on water" to get 4%. Yes, my pay raise is based on my performance. The better I perform, the more money I get. Try that concept for a few years, instead of an automatic raise. As far as medical benefits go, I also have to pay my fair share, why not you? Take that survey again and see what you get. I am also in favor of paying the teachers well because education is very important, but let's see some results. Let's base the increase on the SAT scores. Those results start from elementary and go through high school.

I remember about a year or so ago, all the advertisements from the SPEA about "WE CARE ABOUT YOUR KIDS." Obviously not any more! The senior class has gotten the short end of the stick. For many of these kids who don't do athletics, they need these clubs to get into college. My kids have worked hard at their music and now there might not be the All-District Festival? No mid winter concert? Real nice.

I feel sorry for the good teachers who want to do the little extras for the kids and the union says don't. We're with you, don't lose that caring ability. Wait until the senior class has t-shirts saying, "Thanks for ruining my senior year." Settle now, BUT don't give away MY tax dollars!

NORM LOENSER

Citizens of South Plainfield,

P.T. Barnum would have been proud of the three ring circus that took place at the recent Board of Education meeting on Feb. 15. The day before we were all celebrating with love and kindness, while at the meeting there was not one sign of any kind of positive emotion.

The first ring was held outside the administration building. As I pulled up, I hear this loud constant banging sound. I thought either something was wrong with my car or an airplane had broken the sound barrier.

In the darkness I could make out hundreds of teachers marching and shouting, "Settle Now!" They were clapping their hands and banging a large drum. I'm sure the neighbors were delighted with this entertainment.

The 300 or so teachers then entered the building still shouting and banging the drum. After the meeting was called to order and the agenda items were taken care of, the meeting was opened to the public. Mrs. Haley, the Board president, told everyone they would have a chance to speak. We could talk about what we wanted to, but to keep it brief. Mrs. Haley also stressed she would not tolerate any slanderous talk.

During the second ring, the first and only person to speak was Louis Mruz, president of the teachers union. Ms. Mruz went on about how the teachers were mistreated, they were being shown disrespect, how unfair the board was to everyone including the children and parents. Ms. Mruz also commented that because the teachers are working without a contract, our property values have gone down.

Ms. Mruz does not live in South Plainfield, so I hope she did some research on that subject. When I notice a "for sale" sign going up on a house, it's not too long after that a sold sign replaces it.

I take offense when Ms. Mruz blames the board for hurting my children and the children in our schools. She is the one that has directed the teachers to work only to their contract and nothing else. I'm sure most of you parents have noticed an absence of teachers at after-school activities. Ms. Mruz has directed the teachers not to attend any of these functions. I have a hard time explaining to my children why all this is taking place. My five-year-old, with tears in his eyes, asked me, "Mommy, how come since I started going to J.F. Kennedy, all the fun is gone?"

Now for the third ring! After Ms. Mruz finished speaking and sat down I, along with other parents, waited to be recognized so we could approach the podium. All of a sudden three or four male

Continued on page 6



South Plainfield Residents to Perform in *West Side Story* at Kean

The classic romance *West Side Story* comes to Kean University, starring six South Plainfield residents. South Plainfield High School Drama Director Shayne Austin Miller plays the role of Tony in the show. Shayne has also directed the South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop for the past two years.

During the rehearsal process Kean lost five members from its original cast and Shayne Miller was asked to bring in some of his most talented students. Jason Kollarik is playing Snowboy, Joseph LaJeunesse plays Pepe, Leo Campos plays Luis, Laura Walters plays Clarice and Emma Fulton plays Minnie.

West Side Story is one of the

American musical theatre's only great tragedies. The play also features Dara Fritz (Avenel), a music major, as Maria. Directed by the chairperson of Kean University's Department of Communication and Theatre Professor Holly Logue, *West Side Story* celebrates love's attempt to survive against a backdrop of hate and prejudice.

Kean University staff promises that this will be a *West Side Story* like none ever seen before. Performances are Feb. 18, 19 and 23-26 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 20 and 27 at 2 p.m. in Wilkins Theatre. Tickets are \$12 for the general public; \$10 for Kean faculty, staff, alumni and senior citizens; and \$8 for students.

Tax Preparation Assistance Available for Senior Citizens

Tax Consultants for the Elderly will begin this year's program on Feb. 15 and continue until Apr. 15. The tax preparers are in the process of reviewing and updating their information for the tax year 1999.

All seniors interested in having their tax forms prepared for mailing by Apr. 15 should come to the PAL building located on Maple Ave. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. until 12 noon.

This first come, first served service will also be available to those who do their own tax returns but would like to have them checked over or have questions.

Please bring all information that would be required to complete the forms, i.e., a copy of last year's return, all forms of income (such as 1099s, CDs, bank interest, stock dividends, capital gains or losses, etc.), a copy of last year's

property tax bill or the green postcard giving total taxes paid in 1999.

Assistance and information will be available for help with other forms including PAAD, PTR-1 and Lifeline, Homestead rebate, NJ Saver and HEAP.

For further information, contact Sue Mischa at 754-1047.

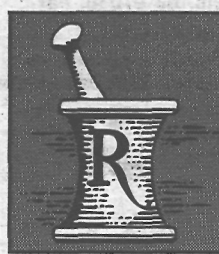
MILESTONE

Dean's List

Elaine Smith On Dean's List

The College of New Jersey, Ewing New Jersey, has placed Elaine Smith on the Dean's list for the 1999 Fall Semester.

Elaine, a 1998 graduate of South Plainfield High School, is a sophomore majoring in marketing/business.



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AROUND TOWN

EVENTS

Senior Trip to See The Student Prince

A senior trip is planned to the Papermill Playhouse to see *The Student Prince* on Thursday, May 25.

The bus leaves from the PAL building on Maple Ave. at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$34 per person. Purchase your tickets at the PAL. There are only 49 tickets available.

Tickets for 'Spring Fever Breakout' Wrestling Match

The South Plainfield High School Athletic Booster Club will be selling tickets for the 'Spring Fever Breakout' pro-wrestling match to be held at South Plainfield High School Gym on Saturday, April 8.

Gold Ringside tickets are selling for \$18; Ringside are \$16 and Bleacher are \$13.

Tickets will be on sale Friday night and all day Saturday during the SPSHS district wrestling matches. Tickets are also available at B&C Deli on Belmont Ave.

For more information, call (908) 754-3394.

Flea Market/Fair Vendors Sought

The South Plainfield Girl Scouts of Washington Rock Girl Scout Council are seeking vendors for their Family Fair and Flea Market planned for April 29 (rain date, May 6) at the South Plainfield Middle School.

The registration fee is \$15 for a 15x5 foot area. Each additional space is \$10. You must supply your own table. Set up is 7:30-9 a.m. and clean up is 4-5 p.m. Sorry no food vendors.

For further information, call Cindy Bosse at (908) 756-9257.

Girl Scouts Hold Blood Drive

South Plainfield Girl Scouts Troop 318 will sponsor a blood drive at Sacred Heart School Cafeteria on Saturday, Feb. 26, between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Donors must be between 17 and 75 years old, weigh at least 110 lbs., be in good health, and have not donated blood in the last 56 days.

For more information, call (908) 757-5785 or (908) 756-1791.

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support (CHATS) Meeting

Connected Hearts Adoption Triad Support (CHATS) will meet from 7:15 to 9:15 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 28 at the Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church, 170 Watchung Ave., North Plainfield.

Dr. Paula Kaplan-Reiss, licensed psychologist specializing in the areas of adoption and infertility and serving as support services coordinator of RESOLVE, will speak on "The Legacy of Infertility." Dr. Kaplan-Reiss has a 9-year-old adopted son, as well as two other sons to whom she gave birth. Open sharing of adoption-related stories and light refreshments. Call Alyce at (732) 227-0607 or <http://community.nj.com/cc/chats> for information.

Rescue Squad Auxiliary Plans Evening at Races

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad will hold an "Evening at the Races" on Saturday, Feb. 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the Arbor Firehouse in Piscataway.

The event is a fundraiser for the rescue squad. For info, call 732-393-1887 or 908-757-7399.

Juniorettes Sponsoring Prom Fashion Show

The South Plainfield Juniorettes invite you to enjoy an entertaining evening while supporting Project Graduation. The Juniorettes, a community service organization, will sponsor a prom fashion show, *Now and Forever* on Friday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the South Plainfield High School.

All proceeds will benefit Project Graduation. Formal wear fashions from Bezee's and Ducoffs Formal Wear will be featured at in the show. The opening act is Neworld. Music will be provided by DJ Breeze & DJ Cream. Advanced tickets may be purchased at the high school by calling Mrs. Gottlieb (high school vice principal) at 754-4620. Tickets are \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$7 for adults. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

AARP Chapter 4144 Meeting

AARP Chapter 4144 is planning a trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on March 30 to see the play *Blythe Spirit*. Ticket includes lunch, show and transportation. For more information call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Mary at (732) 968-3764.

Tourette Syndrome Support Meeting

The Tourette Syndrome Association Family Support Group of Middlesex County will meet on the following dates: March 14 and May 9, 2000.

For more information, contact Debbie at 732-283-1439 or www.tsanj.org.

Seniors - Come Dance With the Pros

Are you starting to feel your arteries clog up? Your waist becoming a past memory?

It's time for a change. Seniors, are invited to come and dance with the pros every Wednesday, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.

The fee is \$15 per person. Register at the PAL, or call 226-7713 for more information.



Raising "Dough" for Riley Stokes Trip

The Riley School Stokes Committee recently held a fundraiser by selling Jeanne's Gourmet products. They sold Jeanne's Gourmet Cookie Dough to raise the last of the funds necessary to pay for their trip. Riley School families and friends supported the event. Pictured holding tubs of Jeanne's Gourmet products are, back row: Michael George, Bobby Parillo, Ryan Fredericks; front row: Joey Parillo and Lindsay Fredericks.

From the South Plainfield Library

Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Even with the extra day at the end this year, February still went by pretty quick. But, we've got time for one more column from South Plainfield Library before it takes leave:

Our Storytime programs will follow their usual schedule next week. For those who came in late, that means they're held on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 1:15 p.m. The programs are for children age 3 and over; you don't need to pre-register for them. Meanwhile, as of this writing, there's still space available in this afternoon's Kidcraft program at 4 p.m. This program is for children age 6 and over; please call to check on the latest details. The number is (908) 754-7885; ask for Linda Hansen, the children's librarian.

Today's Homeschoolers meeting is set for 10:30 in our Children's Room. It's an informal gathering of parents who either home school their kids or are considering doing so. No registration is needed.

The Circuit CDs and Circuit Videos are both between groups today and are not available. We'll have a new group of Circuit Videos next week, while the CDs will return later on in March.

Please remember and plan to attend the Black History program on Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. G. Wright will be speaking on the subject of the Underground Railroad, and there will be a performance by vocalist Bill

Weston. Refreshments will be served; no pre-registration is required.

Monday will be the last day we'll be featuring our February displays. On our display wall, we have artwork by students of South Plainfield High School. Our display cabinets have railroad artifacts from the collection of the Barile family.

There's been another change in our internal arrangement. After considerable thought, Young Adult paperbacks have been moved from the window-sill in our main area and are now back in a brand new paperback rack in front of the Circulation Desk. The exchange paperbacks are now on our older paperback rack at the other end of the Computer Desk. Please adjust your maps accordingly.

We have no problem if you bring your notebook, your backpack, your friends and relatives, yourselves or almost anything else to the library. But there is something we encourage you not to bring: food and drink. Unless there's a dramatic shift in policy, we have no plans to open an espresso bar or café inside the library. And we don't want spills on our expensive carpet, furniture or computer hardware. Food and drink are allowed during certain special functions, like the previously mentioned Black History program. Any other time, though, leave the snacks home.

That'll close out our last column for February. Thanks for reading; we'll see you in March.

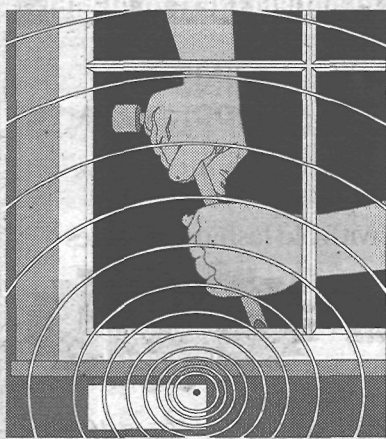
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Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)

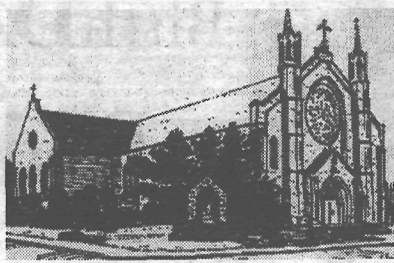
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.

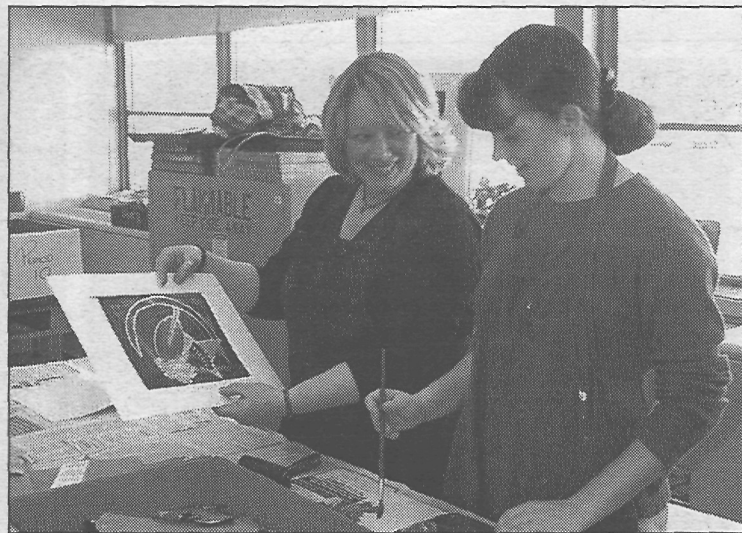
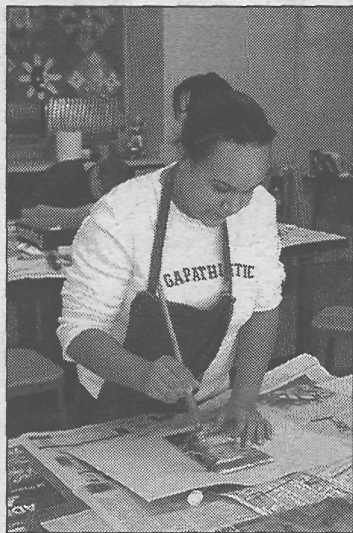
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 11 a.m.- 12 noon, 5:15 -5:45 p.m.

and after 5:45 p.m. Vigil Mass





Middle School Students Learn Print Art

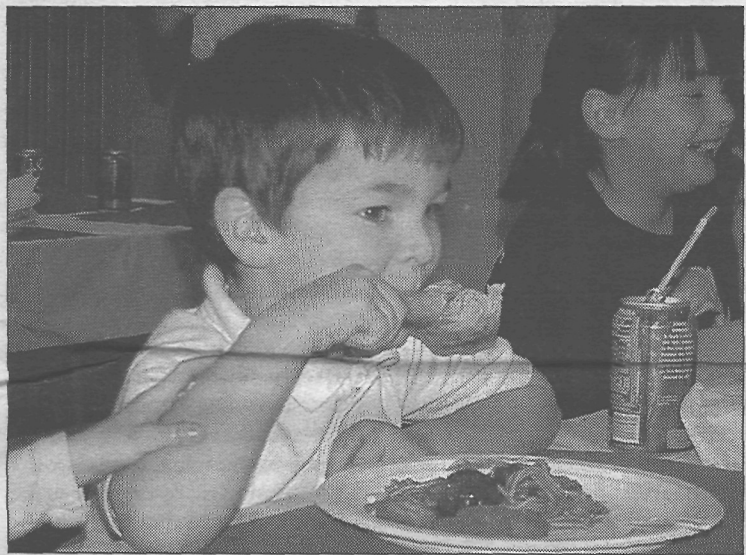
Last week art students at the Middle School were taught several forms of print art by Greta Anderson from the Print Making Council.

Middle school art teacher Mary Ellen Matko explained the workshop was part of the "Friends of Teen Art Program."

The students learned collagraph – students painted water colors on aluminum foil, while still wet, the artwork and a piece of paper are placed together and passed through a press. The image can be pressed several times onto paper, each time looking a bit different.

The seventh grade art class also learned mono-printing and relief-printing by Ms. Anderson. This was a hands-on experience with students doing several forms of art printing and the results were on display throughout the classrooms.

After Two Cancellations, Franklin School Gets 'The Scoop'



By Patricia Abbott

Franklin School finally held their long awaited scoop dinner last Thursday evening. The fundraiser for the Fifth Grade Stokes trip had been postponed twice due to snow. Days prior to the dinner another snow

storm was predicted. Parents and students kept their fingers crossed and prepared for the dinner... again. Mother Nature smiled on the fundraiser and the snow held off until Friday.

The dinner was worth the wait. The line for food started at 5:30 p.m. and ran almost the length of the gym. The line moved quickly thanks to the dozen parents working in the kitchen and didn't ease up until nearly 7 p.m. The tables were set with white cloths, red placemats and red and white balloons.

There was a wide variety of hot entrees to please everyone, from toddlers and teenagers to senior citizens. In addition to the standard salad and bread, the offerings included chicken nuggets, several pasta dishes, chicken, scalloped potatoes, meatballs and more. Spaghetti seemed to be a favorite with the younger set. Food was provided by parents and donated by Marriott, Sherbans, Holly Park Diner, Michael Anthony's and The Cor-

ner Deli. Non-food items were donated by Kmart, Vail Hardware, 1-800-FLOWERS and Mohns. The two dessert tables and the soda booth were manned by fifth graders.

Fifth grade students with batches of balloons wandered in and out amongst the tables selling their wares throughout the evening.

School principal Nancy Erickson and parent volunteers kept busy selling raffle and 50/50 tickets in the lobby. Tina Primavera won the raffle for the sled. The 50/50 drawing had two winners, the Marino Family and Maria Butrico. Maria Butrico donated her winnings back to the school.

More than 350 people attended, raising over \$900 for the Stokes Trip.

Many parents helped with the set up, serving and clean up. A number of fifth grade students were on hand to see that their Stokes fundraiser went well. Chairpersons for the dinner were Sue and Bill Butrico, Annmarie Stoeckel and Nancy Hoffman.



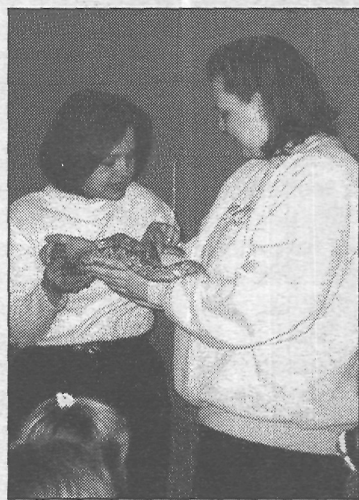
Creatures in the Night Roam The Halls at Riley School

A fantastic assembly program sponsored by the John E. Riley PTSO on Feb. 8 was both educational and entertaining. The students were thrilled to have live animals visit their school. *WILD Images* presented "Creatures of the Night."

Mr. Henry, the presenter, used humor, rhymes and stories to educate the students about the uniqueness of the nocturnal animals and their importance in the balance of nature. The students learned about adaptations and habitats. He explained how many animals use their special abilities to survive in their environment such as the eagle whose talons are like fishing hooks. He demonstrated this by swooping down and gently lifting an unsuspecting audience member in the front row. Needless to say, he had the entire room's attention.

Mr. Henry took a volunteer from the audience to demonstrate what an animal would need to survive in the rainforest. Nick Lanza and Scott Hunterton were each dressed up to survive like the animals that live there. He explained how these adaptations enabled them to thrive. They were given a camouflage poncho, clear safety goggles, antennae, gloves with suction cups on the fingertips

tion during the program as well and several assisted Mr. Henry. Brenda Krushinski and Nicole Zablocki held a ferret for the students to view up close. Jennifer



Schlachtun and Lori Dress held the albino snake for the students to study closer. There was great excitement and the students were amazed that their teachers were brave enough to touch the animals, especially the snake.

The children truly enjoyed seeing the animals brought to the school by Mr. Henry. They saw tarantulas; two ferrets named Fat and Skinny and a chameleon and iguana and three snakes and two small hedgehogs that had to be coaxed awake. Teachers and stu-

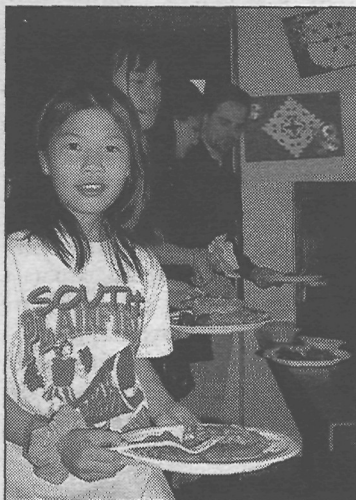


and an umbrella. Mr. Henry was ready to send them off to the rainforest but realized that they were mammals and that the 100-degree temperature would make them very uncomfortable. Unfortunately, they would have to remain at school and do their homework that evening.

There was teacher participa-

dents alike enjoyed the program and we look forward to Mr. Henry's return in the future. This program was presented with the right mix of humor and information to make it memorable for all those who attended that morning.

– Submitted by Ann Delaney



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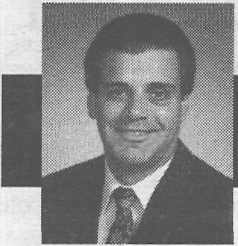
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The Alternative View

By Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C.

Dear Dr. DeCosta: Ever since I can remember, whenever I have bought a pair of pants I have to have them altered because one leg is shorter than the other. Is there anything that can be done using alternative methods to help with this problem? — S.L.

Dear S.L.:

Leg length inequality, or short leg, is so common a condition that it is sometimes considered normal, with inequalities of less than 25mm often going unnoticed by both physician and patient. However, studies have shown short leg to be prevalent in patients with low back pain and, in some cases, a sign of other more degenerative conditions, like scoliosis — a deforming curvature of the spine.

Short leg is classified as either anatomical (actual) or functional (apparent). In the case of anatomical short leg, the femur or tibia bones of one leg are physically shorter than the other, often the result of surgical or fracture trauma. Growth dysfunction can also cause anatomical short leg because during maturation the long bones do not lengthen simultaneously, but rather one leg at a time.

With functional short leg, one leg only *appears* to be shorter than the other. There is no true bone equality. Functional shortening can arise from pelvic distortion and subluxation.

The effects of short leg are many. The pelvic tilt associated with short leg causes postural asymmetry — meaning that the body is put off balance. This imbalance is often compensated by functional scoliosis, a condition in which the spine curves laterally (sideways) and twists as it grows, unnaturally compressing the discs between the vertebrae. While not serious in all cases, scoliosis is a progressive disorder which can worsen over time, sometimes leading to cardiopulmonary distress and even death.

Studies have suggested that short leg syndrome or leg-length inequality may produce pelvic tilting, thrusting the hip of the longer leg outward, creating hip instability, possibly promoting accelerated degeneration and even fusion of the involved hip joint.

Symptoms of short leg can include low back pain, hip pain, and sciatica (irritation of the sciatic nerve causing pain to the thigh, lower back, buttocks, hips, or adjacent parts).

In my experience, many people experience a combination of both types of short leg syndromes. An anatomical shortness of more than 6mm is considered by most authorities to be a condition in which the body will not compensate and adapt well. This may lead to developmental problems as well as a whole array of spinal and pelvic problems.

A professional examination by a doctor of chiropractic is most certainly indicated in these cases to differentiate the cause of the leg shortness and attend to any resulting problems.

Questions for *The Alternative View* should be addressed to: *The Alternative View*, c/o Dr. Anthony J. DeCosta, D.C., 129 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Visit *The Alternative View* on the web at www.usalternativemedicine.com

Michael's Kitchen Supper Club Debuts With Big a Crowd

Michael's Kitchen, the new supper club located in the Elks Club on New Market Avenue, recently began serving dinner on Saturday nights. Their first night was so successful that they had to turn away customers on the first night.

Michael's Kitchen is operated by Chef Michael, a well-known chef and caterer in the area. The menu features a choice of appetizers, entrees and assorted cheesecakes for dessert. A partial list of menu items may be found in their ad on page 2 of this pa-

per. Special menu items are also available and change every week. Michael says he uses only the freshest meats, poultry and fish delivered the same day to the Elks.

A quick call to Michael at 732-287-4363 or John Muller at 908-822-0687 will give you the upcoming offerings for Saturday's dining.

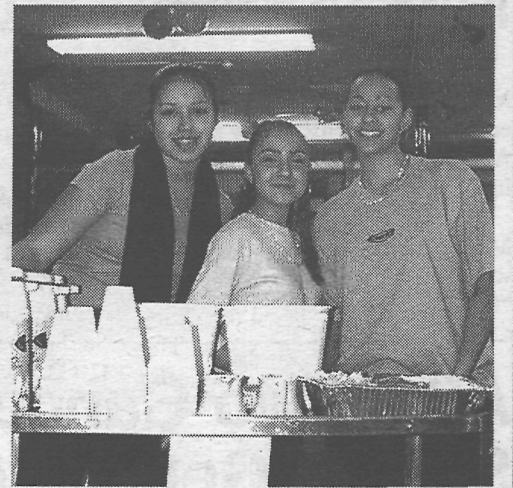
Dinner is served from 5:30 to 10 p.m. Reservations are requested for parties of six or more. The bar is open from 6 to 9 p.m. Guest are always welcome.



Weather Doesn't Dampen Annual Chinese Attendance

Despite less than ideal weather conditions Sacred Heart Home School Association held its annual Chinese Auction. The ever-popular auction is normally well attended because of the many valuable prizes given away. Tickets are sold out the first week they go on sale and a waiting list is the only hope many have of attending. No one who braved the bad weather was disappointed and many went home with great gifts. Proceeds from the auction benefit Sacred Heart School. The 50/50 grew to \$710 and was won by Carol Ray, who also chaired the affair. Joan Mitchell won the grand prize—a computer. Other prizes included a DVD player, TV set with a video player and many gift baskets.

Seventh and eighth grade Sacred Heart students served refreshments and handed out the prizes.



Letters

Continued from page 3

teachers surrounded the podium. Mrs. Haley asked them to please be seated and they would be called upon in a timely fashion. The teachers refused to sit down and started talking into the microphone. Mrs. Haley asked a second time for them to be seated and they didn't. She then pulled the plug on the microphone and asked for the meeting to be adjourned.

As the teachers walked out, they all placed a pen on the table where the board members were sitting. What a waste of time and money to think 300 pens would persuade the board members to sign a contract.

I think what happened was embarrassing, humiliating and down right childish for everyone who was in attendance. Because of a few inconsiderate teachers, the rest of the parents were not able to ask our questions and voice our options. There is not another Board of Education meeting until after the referendum. Some of us parents were not able to attend the special meetings, so we wanted to speak on Tuesday night.

I personally feel that the contract should be fair for all involved. I have said in the past that I do not hold the teachers responsible

for what is taking place. I hold the union responsible for telling the teachers what they can and cannot do.

I feel that I have a great relationship with my children's teachers. They have given more than 100 percent and have gone out of their way too many times to count—especially for my daughter who has ADD. All of her teachers since she began at J.F. Kennedy five years ago, from Mr. Czech, Mrs. Bannon, her music, art, gym and computer teachers have all had a hand in helping my daughter do the best she can.

Her grades are now all As and one B! She is focused, attentive and progressing very well. Most of her success stems from the patience and kindness shown from her teachers.

A lot of comments were made by parents after the meeting abruptly ended. Some were, "Fire them all...If they want to teach here, let them play by our rules....Get rid of the union!...If this is the way they want our children to see their teachers act, who needs them!...I can't believe our teachers are going along with this!...I'm pulling my children out of public school."

The union should keep our children out of this and let the teachers decide individually if they want to have a special club or be involved or attend after school functions. The teachers should not stand united together, they should

also stand united for the children!

My last comment is about all the Christmas cards, Valentines, candy and flowers that were sent to Board of Education members. I feel the same way Mrs. Jefferys does. Leave their families out of it and don't waste union dues on such childlike behavior. I'm sure the teachers and their union representatives would not like to be harassed like this either.

As I was leaving the school, I heard a union representative make a comment that I thought was absolutely horrible. I couldn't believe my own ears when I heard, "What's the big deal about sending Christmas Cards? It wasn't like it was a bomb."

The last time the teachers contract expired we went through months of the same thing. I realize it takes two to tango, but agreements have to come sooner than this. I urge both parties to please sit down and come to some kind of compromise. Our children's futures are at stake.

Parents also need to participate more. There were only a handful of parents at this last meeting. Please come, you are needed! The meetings are only once a month. I know only too well all the other obligations we have as parents, but if 300 teachers can show up at these meetings, we can too!

Maybe it's also time for some new leadership to be voted in to represent our teachers!

GWENN KURILEW

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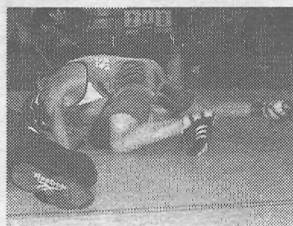
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SPORTS



Tiger Wrestlers Take State Championship! Defeat Delaware Valley at Sectionals, then Sterling and Kittatinny

By Bob Hunter

The South Plainfield High School wrestling team has finally done it all. The Tigers now 17-0, won their third sectional title in four years as they defeated Delaware Valley 38-19. The Tigers have never beaten the Terriers in the sectional finals and this year they were not to be denied and came out ready to avenge last year's 29-27 defeat. Del Val, the defending Group II State Champions, had to travel to South Plainfield this year for the finals. The only exception this year was the Tigers came in as the number five team and the number one seed.

The Tigers won nine of fourteen bouts taking an early 15-0 lead when Matt Anderson (103) and Rich Gebauer (112) won by a fall and Roberto Ramos (119) scored a major decision 13-2. The Terriers made a run closing the cap to 22-19, but that was all Del Val was going to get as the Tigers felt confident going into the 171 match with Chris Francis facing Joe Angione, who bumped up to 171. He had been the regular 152 pounder for Del Val. That move back fired when Francis won a 8-5 decision. Then Dan Kunst (189) won by decision and John Foscolo won by major decision 13-0. Colin Hunter sealed the

match with a fall at 0:42 over Scott Carver to clinch the title.

"It's great to win a sectional title at home" Tiger coach Bill Pavlak said. "These kids worked hard and they deserved this title."

Tigers Claim Their First State Championship

After claiming the third sectional title in four years the Tigers traveled to Kittatinny for a chance to win their first Group II Title.

First the Tigers had to defeat Sterling, the South Jersey Group II Champions. South Plainfield went right to work winning the first three of four bouts. Matt Anderson (103) and Rich Gebauer (112) each won by major decisions and Dave Butrico (125) won by fall.

Things seemed to be going along nicely until Scott Doerr, wrestling at (145), was disqualified when Charles Quicksill hit Doerr with a hard cross face across his mouth. The action was stopped and after a long discussion, the referee who did not see the move disqualified Doerr. "I didn't bite him," said Doerr, "he cross faced me and his arm went into my braces." There were scratches from the braces not teeth marks. In this reporters opinion, it was a complete and total injus-

tice to Doerr. That only motivated the rest of the team. Dave Fiore, who bumped up to 160, went on to pin Butch Johnson at 5:02, to get the momentum back.

Chris Francis (171) won a 6-0 decision and Dan Kunst (189) pinned Mike Sherdian. John Foscolo (215) pinned Vince Toscano and Colin Hunter (Hwt) pinned Matt Baker.

Beat Kittatinny in Finals

The showdown of the two teams ranked in the state's top 10 was expected to be a thriller and it was. Matt Anderson (103) got the Tigers going with a 17-0 Tech-fall over Mike Gummerson. Rich Gebauer (112) kept the Tigers in the match, even in defeat by not giving up any bonus points to state ranked Matt Valenti. Roberto Ramos (119) then won a major decision and Dave Butrico dropped a close 3-2 decision. Dave Stoessel then won a huge decision 8-2

over Mike Just-Cornelius at 130. Just-Cornelius was ranked as the third-best 130 pounder in the state. The Tigers dropped the next three matches all by decision.

It was Dave Fiore (152) who got the Tigers going again by scoring the fall over Matt Dunn at 4:29 to give the Tigers the lead 18-15. Mike Buteas (160) did his job by not giving up any bonus points, putting the Tigers into a good position going into the final four matches. Just like all year long the Tigers had the heavy hitters up to close the match. Chris Francis (171) scored a fall over Bob Carr at 3:04 to give the Tigers the lead for good. Dan Kunst (189) who was down 9-7 with 10 seconds left put Dan Curtin onto his back for a five point move and a 12-9 decision victory. John Foscolo (215) then won a 10-7 decision over Ryan Wittrien. Colin Hunter (Hwt) then sealed the title

with a 11-4 decision over Joe Crown.

"It feels good to finally win a group title," said Tiger Coach Bill Pavlak. "Its been a long time that we've been trying to win this title. We've been in the sectionals 14 of 15 years I've coached here and it's nice to finally win one." he added. "It was especially nice for the seniors to go out as winners. This title was the only thing they have not accomplished in the four years they wrestled varsity."

Congratulations to Coach Pavlak and special thanks to his assistant coaches Kevin McCann and Bill Hamilton, volunteer coaches Charlie Friday and Joe Apostle and to the Tiger wrestlers for a thrilling and exciting year.

Next up the Tigers will be going for their 16th consecutive District title which will begin this weekend at the high school.

Recreation Wrestlers Crown Eight Champions at South Plainfield Tournament

The 26th Annual South Plainfield Invitational Wrestling Tournament was held this past weekend and South Plainfield fared well in this tough tournament.

Claiming titles for the Tigers in the Midget Division were Patrick Hunter (58). Hunter won his first match by tech fall 21-4 over Pat Lanzone of North Plainfield and won his semi-final match 16-4 over Doug Macrae and then defeated Billy Loftus of N. Hunterdon 6-4 claiming the first Tiger title.

Billy Ashnault (67) defeated Tony Priore 9-0, won by decision over Any Boyle of N. Hunterdon 4-2. In the finals he won by major decision over Tyler Hower of Danberry Ct. 14-0 to claim the second Tiger championship.

Mark Wagner (81) claimed the third Tiger title by defeating Ryan Willz by fall and then defeated Jay Volk of Toms River 4-1. In the finals Wagner won by tech-fall 17-1 over Jeb Dennis of Cranford for the third Tiger Championship.

Rocco Petriello (Hwt) claimed the fourth Tiger title by pinning Anthony Watkins of Fords and John Loomis of Scotch Plains to claim his title.

Frank Stefanelli (105) won his first two matches before dropping his final by decision. Third place finished went to Robert Gentile (55) and Jeff Osley (85).

Fourth Place went to Nick Pauls (55), Nick Dorey (77), Brad Martin (90). Fifth Place went to Mike Jakubik (73), Danny Pompilio (90). Winning matches but not placing were Jake Smithline, Tim Guaghan and Sal Soto.

Claiming medals in the Pee wee Division were Kyle Pompilio, third place; Jeffrey Conroy, fifth place and Daniel DiMaria, fifth place. Winning matches but not placing were Scott Whalen, Patrick O'Connor, Albert Vill.

In the Bantam Division Ryan Sacco came up short in his final

for second place and Bizzy Martin lost by decision in her final for second place. Finishing third were Nick Heilman (53) and fourth were Frank DeBiase, Corey Hay, Johnathan Conroy, Mike Wagner and Pat Millard. Winning matches but not place were Chris Hoagland, Kyle Hughes, John Wylam, Nick Vallone.

On the second day of this two day tournament the Tiger's picked up where they left off, claiming four championships.

Jimmy Conroy (65) claimed his title in the Junior division winning by fall. Also placing in the Junior division were Kevin Crilley (114) third place, Bryan Hunt (73) fourth place, Danny Bayak (80) fourth place and Matt D'Alessandro (75) fifth place.

In the intermediate division the tigers claimed three titles with Guy Severini (125) dominating the field and claiming his second consecutive championship.

Joe DeBiase (140) won his first two matches by fall and decision and won his final in a thrilling overtime decision 6-4. DeBiase avenged two early season losses. Paul Ritchey had an outstanding tournament winning his first two matches and winning by decision in the finals.

Also winning medals were Danny DeAndrea and Rob Mastickle, each earned second place honors. Third place winners were Peter DeAndrea and Kyle Bostick. Fourth place went to Billy Weaver, while Frank Demarst finished fifth.

Junior Baseball Club Notes

By Frank Hanley

Tryouts—Tryouts are next Saturday, March 4 at the PAL Building on Maple Ave. All registered players will receive notification by mail indicating their try-out time. Players... remember to wear sneakers and bring your glove.

SPJBC Scholarship—The club is taking applications for its annual college scholarship. Applications are available at the High School Guidance Department or contact the club. Each year the club offers up to two \$1000 scholarships. Applicants must be residents of South Plainfield graduating this June and have participated at the SPJBC for a minimum of five years. The filing date for applications is Apr. 1, 2000.

Registration—There are currently 462 players registered to play in the 2000 season. Anyone interested in playing should contact the club ASAP, as there are only a few openings remaining.

Somerset Patriots—This year, the club is offering tickets to see the Somerset Patriots. The club has reserved 300 tickets for the game scheduled on Friday night, May 26. The tickets are \$8 each and are being sold on a first come-first serve basis. Contact John Rayho at 754-8904 for more information.

Sign Sponsors—The Sign Sponsor program is again being offered to local businesses. This program provides businesses with advertising space at the complex. Businesses interested in becoming or continuing as a sponsor or should contact the club as soon as possible. Businesses that renew their sponsorship by Feb. 29 will be entitled to a discount.

Woman's Auxiliary—The Woman's Auxiliary is sponsoring the annual Little Miss Baseball contest. Contact Cindy Eichler at 769-4047 for more information. The Woman are once again holding their Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale. This is a major fund raising event held by the Women each year. Proceeds from this candy sale are put right back into the club in form of equipment for the players and improvements to the complex. All registered players should have received a brochure.

Contact the SPJBC—clubhouse phone: (908) 754-2090...email: spjbc@aol.com...Web Site: members.aol.com/spjbc/spjbc.html.

Events at a Glance—*First & Second Year Umpire Class* on Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 6:45 at the clubhouse; *Tryouts* - Saturday, March 4 at the PAL; *Scholarship Application Deadline* - Apr. 1 and *Opening Day* - Saturday, Apr. 15.

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Kindergarten Registration Dates Set

Registration for children for the September 2000 Kindergarten class will take place in the Board Room of the South Plainfield Board of Education Administration Building on 305 Cromwell Place, during the week of March 20-23, 2000, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. To be enrolled in Kindergarten this September, children must have been born on or before October 1, 1995. There are no exceptions to this regulation.

Parents/guardians of prospective kindergartners are required to submit the following documents when registering:

1. **Application for Enrollment**—completed and signed by the parent or legal guardian.
2. **NOTE: Official Custody** documents will be required if child does not reside with both parents.
3. **Child's Original Birth Certificate With the Raised Seal.**
4. **Child's Social Sec. Number.**
5. **Immunization Records.**
6. **Medical Record Form** (Kindergarten/new U.A.S. residents only) with required immunization records—dated, stamped and signed by child's doctor.
7. **Proofs of Residency:**

a. Deed or closing statement (or legal contract showing purchase of home); or b. Legal lease/rental agreement; and c. Any two utility bills (PSE&G, cable, water, sewer or tax bill from SP tax office).

In order to expedite the registration process, parents are encouraged to assemble, complete and bring the above documents with them at the time of registration.

Parents/Guardians may obtain blank enrollment and medical forms prior to kindergarten registration week (March 20-23, 2000) in the enrollment center (Main Office) in the Administration Building, 305 Cromwell Place, South Plainfield, between the hours of 8:30-12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Ponytail Parents Sponsoring Free Pitching Clinics

The South Plainfield Parent/Ponytail Association and the Recreation Department are offering pitching clinics in March. Girls registered for the Spring 2000 Recreation Ponytail Softball Program are eligible to sign up for these clinics. Two clinics will be offered, one for beginners (those girls with little or no experience) and advanced, for those with some pitching experience. Each clinic consists of three sessions to be conducted on March 13, 20 and 27 at the PAL Building. The beginners clinic runs from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the advanced will run from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Norm Chadwick, head instructor, has been coaching softball pitchers for over ten years and is affiliated with the Clark Wildcats for over five years. One highlight in his career was working with U.S. Olympic pitching star Michelle Smith. Chadwick has played fastpitch softball for over 20 years.

Each clinic is limited to a maximum of 20 girls. The Recreation Department will take registrations at the PAL on a first come first served basis.

NOTICE TO PERSONS DESIRING CIVILIAN ABSENTEE BALLOTS

If you are a qualified and registered voter of the State who expects to be absent outside the State on April 18, 2000 or a qualified and registered voter who will be within the State on April 18, 2000, but because of permanent and total disability, or because of illness or temporary physical disability, or because of the observance of a religious holiday pursuant to the tenets of your religion, or because of resident attendance at a school, college, or university, or because of the nature and hours of employment, will be unable to cast your ballot at the polling place in your district on said date, and you desire to vote in the School Election to be held on April 18, 2000, kindly complete the application form below and send to the undersigned, or write or apply in person to the undersigned at once requesting that a civilian absentee ballot be forwarded to you. Such request must state your home address, and the address to which said ballot should be sent, and must be signed with your signature, and state the reason why you will not be able to vote at your usual polling place. No civilian absentee ballot will be furnished or forwarded to any applicant unless request therefore is received not less than 7 days prior to the election, and contains the foregoing information.

VOTERS WHO ARE PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED SHALL, AFTER THEIR INITIAL REQUEST AND WITHOUT FURTHER ACTION ON THEIR PART BE FORWARDED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION BY THE COUNTY CLERK FOR ALL FUTURE ELECTIONS IN WHICH THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE. APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE OBTAINED BY APPLYING TO THE UNDERSIGNED EITHER IN WRITING OR BY TELEPHONE, OR THE APPLICATION FORM PROVIDED BELOW MAY BE COMPLETED AND FORWARDED TO THE UNDERSIGNED.

Forms of application other than federal postcard application forms can be obtained from the undersigned.

DATE: February 25, 2000

ELAINE M. FLYNN
MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY COURT HOUSE
P.O. Box 1110
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08903
(732) 745-4463

A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY HAS THE RIGHT TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT OR TO BE ASSISTED AT THE POLLS BY TWO ELECTION CLERKS, ONE FROM EACH PARTY, OR BY A PERSON CHOSEN BY THE VOTER OTHER THAN THE VOTER'S EMPLOYER OR AGENT OF THAT EMPLOYER, OR OFFICER OR AGENT OF THE VOTER'S UNION. VOTING LOCATIONS MUST BE ACCESSIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE PARKING WITH PROPER SIGNAGE MUST BE PROVIDED. DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED VOTERS CAN ACCESS THE FOLLOWING TDD NUMBER: (732) 937-8364. INSTRUCTIONS PRINTED IN LARGE TYPE MUST BE CONSPICUOUSLY DISPLAYED AT EACH PERMANENT REGISTRATION FACILITY AND POLLING PLACE. VIOLATIONS OF THE ABOVE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS: (732) 745-3471.

☐ Marque aqui si usted desea recibir sus materiales electorales en Español. **CIVILIAN ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION**

You must apply for an Absentee Ballot for each Election. I hereby apply for an absentee ballot for the (Check One)

☐ Primary ☐ General ☐ Municipal ☐ Special
☐ Local ☐ School ☐ Regional

☐ Other _____ To be held on _____ DATE

CHECK AND COMPLETE

I live in the ☐ City ☐ Town ☐ Township ☐ Borough

☐ Village of _____
My legal residence address including Street Number and/or R.D. Number and Box Number is as follows:

STREET ADDRESS

MUNICIPALITY

ZIP CODE

PHONE

Mail my ballot to the following address:

STREET ADDRESS

MUNICIPALITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

CHECK REASON FOR BALLOT

I am unable to vote at my regular polling place on election day because:

☐ I expect to be absent from the State of New Jersey on election day.

(DATE OF DEPARTURE)

☐ Of illness or physical disability including blindness or pregnancy I will be unable to vote at my polling place on election day.
☐ I am permanently and totally disabled.

State reason _____

☐ Observance of a religious holiday on election day.
☐ Resident attendance at a school, college or University on election day.

☐ Of nature and hours of my employment on election day.

Under penalty of Law, I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true and correct.

☐ SIGN YOUR NAME AS IT APPEARS IN REGISTRY BOOK

PRINT OR TYPE YOUR NAME

• If sick or confined a voter may apply for an absentee ballot by authorized messenger.

• I designate _____ to be my authorized messenger (NAME OF MESSENGER)

(SIGNATURE OF VOTER)

• Authorized messenger must sign application only in presence of county clerk or county clerk designee.

SIGNATURE OF MESSENGER

STREET ADDRESS

MUNICIPALITY

ZIP CODE

OFFICE USE ONLY

VOTER NUMBER

PARTY

WARD

DISTRICT

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

REMARKS

Rev. 3/99

\$313.50

1T/2/25/99

AVISO PARA LAS PERSONAS QUE DESEEN PAPELETAS DE CIVIL AUSENTE

Si usted es un elector del Estado calificado y registrado, pero espera estar ausente del mismo en Abril 18 del 2000, o va a estar en el Estado en Abril 18 del 2000, pero no va a poder ir a votar a su lugar de votación debido a las siguientes razones: incapacidad permanente o temporaria; por enfermedad o incapacidad física temporaria; por causas religiosas; por asistir a la escuela, colegio o universidad; o por horario o tipo de trabajo. Si usted desea votar en la Elección Escolar en Abril 18 del 2000, por favor llene la solicitud de abajo y envíela a la dirección indicada; o escriba, o solicite personalmente en la dirección de abajo, para que le envíen una papeleta por correo. Su solicitud debe incluir; su dirección residencial y la dirección a la cual se le enviara la papeleta; su firma y la razón por la cual no podra votar en su lugar de votación. No se le enviara, o proveera papeletas de civil ausente a nadie a menos que la solicitud sea recibida por lo menos 7 días antes de la elección y contenga la información requerida.

ELECTORES QUE SON PERMANENTEMENTE Y TOTALMENTE INCAPACITADOS DEBEN, AUTOMATICAMENTE DESPUES DE SU SOLICITUD INICIAL, RECIBIR UNA PAPELETA DE ELECTOR AUSENTE DEL SECRETARIO DEL CONDADO PARA TODAS LAS FUTURAS ELECCIONES EN LAS CUALES SEAN ELEGIBLES. SOLICITUDES PUEDEN SER OBTENIDAS ESCRIBIENDO O LLAMANDO AL MENCIONADO, O PUEDE ENVIAR LA SOLICITUD INCLUIDA ABAJO AL MISMO.

Las solicitudes, excepto la solicitud postal federal, pueden ser obtenidas en la siguiente dirección:

FECHA: Febrero 25 Del 2000

ELAINE M. FLYNN
MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY COURT HOUSE
P.O. Box 1110
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08903
(732) 745-4463

UNA PERSONA INCAPACITADA TIENE EL DERECHO A VOTAR CON PAPELETA DE AUSENTE O A SER ASISTIDA EN LAS URNAS POR DOS OFICIALES DE ELECCIONES, UNO DE CADA PARTIDO, O POR UNA PERSONA ELEGIDA POR EL VOTANTE QUE NO SEA SU JEFE, O EL AGENTE DE ESE JEFE, U OFICIAL O AGENTE DE SU UNION. LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN; DEBEN SER ACCESIBLES Y ESTACIONAMIENTO ACCESIBLE CON SEÑALES APROPIADAS DEBE SER PROVEÍDO. VOTANTES CON SORDERA O POCA AUDICIÓN PUEDEN CONTACTAR EL SIGUIENTE NÚMERO TDD: (732) 937-8364. INSTRUCCIONES IMPRESAS EN LETRA GRANDE DEBERAN SER CLARAMENTE EXHIBIDAS EN CADA LUGAR PERMANENTE DE REGISTRACIÓN O VOTACIÓN. VIOLACIONES A LO DE ARRIBA DEBERÁN SER REFERIDAS A LA JUNTA DE ELECCIONES DEL CONDADO DE MIDDLESEX: (732) 745-3471.

SOLICITUD DE VOTO DE ELECTOR CIVIL AUSENTE

Usted debe solicitar un voto de ausente para cada elección. Por el presente solicito un voto de ausente para la elección (indique una)

☐ Primaria ☐ General ☐ Municipal ☐ Especial
☐ Local ☐ Regional ☐ Técnica De artes y oficios

☐ Otra _____ que se realizará el _____ FECHA

LLENE LAS CASILLAS Y ESPACIOS EN BLANCO

Vivo en ☐ la ciudad ☐ el pueblo ☐ el municipio ☐ el barrio

☐ la aldea de _____
Mi residencia legal, incluyendo el número de la calle, el de la ruta o ambos y el apartado, es la siguiente:

DIRECCION DE LA CALLE

MUNICIPIO

ZONA POSTAL

TELEFONO

Envien mi voto a la siguiente dirección:

DIRECCION DE LA CALLE

MUNICIPIO

ESTADO

ZONA POSTAL

INDIQUE LA RAZON DEL VOTO

El día de elecciones no podré votar en mi urna regular debido a que:
☐ Espero encontrarme ausente del estado de Nueva Jersey el día de la elección

(FECHA DE LA PARTIDA)

☐ Una enfermedad o incapacidad física, incluyendo la ceguera y el embarazo, me impedirán votar en mi urna el día de la elección.
☐ Sufro de invalidez permanente y total.

Expresé la razón _____

☐ El día de la elección deberé observar un feriado religioso.
☐ El día de la elección estaré asistiendo como residente a una escuela, escuela superior o universidad.
☐ La naturaleza de mi trabajo y su horario, el día de la elección.
So pena de incurrir en las sanciones legales, certifico que las anteriores manifestaciones hechas por mí son veraces y correctas.

☐ FIRME CON SU NOMBRE COMO APARECE EN EL LIBRO DEL REGISTRO

ESCRIBA SU NOMBRE EN LETRA DE MOLDE O MECANOGRAFIA

• Si el votante se encuentra enfermo o recluso, puede solicitar un voto de ausente por intermedio de un mensajero autorizado.

• Nombre a _____ mi mensajero autorizado.
(NOMBRE DEL MENSAJERO)

(FIRMA DEL VOTANTE)

• El mensajero autorizado debe firmar las solicitudes únicamente ante el Secretario del Condado o su delegado.

(FIRMA DEL MENSAJERO)

(DIRECCION DE LA CALLE)

MUNICIPIO

ZONA POSTAL

USO DE OFICINA SOLAMENTE

VOTER NUMBER

PARTY

WARD

DISTRICT

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

REMARKS

\$313.50

1T/2/25/99

SPORTS

GMC Basketball Tournament Ends for Both High School Boys and Girls

By Brian Cochrane

The South Plainfield High School Basketball season came to a close last weekend as the girls and the guys teams were both eliminated from the conference tournament. Last Wednesday night the boys traveled to Sayreville to face the sixth seeded Bombers. The Tigers had Sayreville back on their heels in the first half, taking a five point lead at the break and sending the message that South Plainfield was a force to be reckoned with. The game was a thrilling see-saw battle right up to the final buzzer as the Tigers bombed away from three-point-land (9-24) to compensate for the

near flawless foul shooting of the Bombers that kept Sayreville one step ahead after each possession and ultimately led to their 60-55 victory.

Dominique Pender led the Tigers by scoring 25 as Justin Benford drained 3 three pointers, but it wasn't enough to hold off the streaking Bombers who clearly won the physical contests underneath the boards, out rebounding the Tigers 25-5 on the offensive glass alone. The boys do have one game remaining on their schedule (tonight at Pisc. Vo-Tech) but at presstime that game is a possible no go; if so the boys end the season with a very good 14-8.

After advancing to the second

round, the girls were poised for what was supposed to be a good match up with eighth seeded Highland Park. It turned out not to be the case as the Tigers' defense shut down the Owls, while the offense went to work and countered every Owl basket with two of their own to win going away 34-17. Sheryl Cwiekalo's 13 points and Kim Wilcox's 10 paced the Tigers and sent them to face East Brunswick in the quarterfinals.

The number one seeded Bears were too much for the Tigers as the 63-35 E. Brunswick victory brought an end to a very respectable South Plainfield season. In the finale Sheryl was team high with 11 while Kelly Ritchey added 10. The Tigers finish with a 15-5 mark and although three key seniors will be graduating (Kim Wilcox, Sheryl Cwiekalo and Christy Buteas) the Tigers still have a lot of talent coming back next year in Shannon Bishop, Kelly Ritchey and Kristina Cwiekalo.



Shannon Dabrio (left), Lauren Kaczka (center) and Mary Otlowski (right) recently represented South Plainfield High School at the GMC Swimming Competition.

Three Students Represent SPHS at GMC Swim Meet

Freshman, Lauren Kaczka and sophomores, Shannon Dabrio and Mary Otlowski represented South Plainfield High School at this year's GMC swimming competition. The meet was held at North Brunswick High School

on Friday, Feb. 4. Several hundred girls participated.

Lauren Kaczka competed in both the 200 and 50 freestyle. Shannon Dabrio participated in the 100 breaststroke (where she received a fourth place medal) and the 50 freestyle. Mary Otlowski competed in the 100 backstroke and the 100 butterfly.

Although none of these young ladies belongs to a high school swim team, all three are members of the South Plainfield Tiger Sharks Swim Team in the summer and the Blue Dolphins Swim Team in the winter. All three girls did well, placing in at least the top of half of each of the events in which they competed, without the benefit of an organized high school swim team.

Congratulations ladies and good luck next year!

SPHS Bowling Team Competes in Joe Romer Memorial Tournament

The Boys Bowling team had a strong fifth place finish in the 24th Annual Joe Romer Memorial County Tournament. Matt Square bowled 203-225 games and a 608 set. Eric Gaub bowled 211-196-194 games and a 601 set. Chipping in were Doug Lauckhardt who bowled a 214 and a solid 556 set, Paul Larisch a 197 and Ray Tomei a 192. The boys completed their season as White Division Champions and a 19-2 record, losing only two

close matches to Colonia who is ranked #1 in the state.

The Girls Bowling team finished seventh in the Romer Tournament with Melissa Jamieson rolling solid 193-172-162 games and a 527 set. Chipping in were Amanda Smith with a 154, Rebecca Horn with a 159 and freshman Alexis Montenegro with 153 and 161 games.

The girls finished third in the White Division at 12-2-2 and an overall record of 14-4-2.

AVISO PARA ELECTORES EN EL SERVICIO MILITAR, SUS PARIENTES Y AMIGOS

Si usted se encuentra en el servicio militar; es esposo(a) ó dependiente de alguien en el servicio; es paciente en un hospital para veteranos; es un civil adjunto a, ó sirve con, las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos, fuera del Estado de Nueva Jersey; es esposo(a) ó dependiente de un civil adjunto a, ó que sirve con, las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos. Si usted tiene estas características y desea votar, ó es un familiar ó amigo de alguien que las tenga y que usted crea que quiera votar, en la Elección Escolar en April 18 de 2000. Escriba a la dirección de abajo para solicitar la papeleta del servicio militar, para votar en dicha elección. Si usted esta en el servicio incluya su nombre, edad, número de serie, dirección residencial y la dirección de su base ó donde se le pueda localizado. Si desea la papeleta para un pariente ó amigo, haga la petición bajo juramento, declarando que la persona es mayor de dieciocho años, su nombre, su número de serie si esta en el servicio militar, dirección residencial y dirección de su base ó de donde pueda ser localizado.

Electores del servicio militar pueden solicitar la papeleta de voto militar enviando una solicitud federal en forma de tarjeta postal al Secretario del Condado.

En la solicitud para la papeleta del servicio militar, electores del servicio militar pueden requerir que una papeleta del servicio militar les sea enviada para las demás elecciones que se lleven acabo éste año.

(NOTA: EL ELECTOR MILITAR QUE DECLARE SU ESTACION MILITAR COMO DOMICILIO PARA VOTAR NO PUEDE USAR LA PAPELETA DE MILITAR AUSENTE A MENOS QUE ESTE REGISTRADO PARA VOTAR EN EL MUNICIPIO DONDE DICHA ESTACION ESTA LOCALIZADA.)

Las solicitudes, excepto la solicitud postal federal, pueden ser obtenidas en la siguiente dirección:

FECHA: Febrero 25 del 2000.

ELAINE M. FLYNN
MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY COURT HOUSE
P.O. BOX 1110
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08903

\$109.45

1T 2/25/00

NOTICE TO MILITARY SERVICE VOTERS AND TO THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

If you are in the military service, or the spouse or dependent of a person in military service or a patient in a veterans' hospital or a civilian attached to or serving with the Armed Forces of the United States without the State of New Jersey, or the spouse and dependent of and accompanying or residing with a civilian attached to or serving with the Armed Forces of the United States, and desire to vote, or if you are a relative or friend of any such person who, you believe, will desire to vote in the School Election to be held on April 18, 2000 kindly write to the undersigned at once making application for a military service ballot to be voted in said election to be forwarded to you, stating your name, age, serial number if you are in military service, home address and the address at which you are stationed or can be found, or if you desire the military service ballot for a relative or friend then make application under oath for a military service ballot to be forwarded to him, stating in your application that he is over the age of 18 years and stating his name, serial number if he is in military service, home address and the address at which he is stationed or can be found.

Military service voters may also apply for a military service ballot by sending a federal postcard application form to the undersigned.

On the application for a military service ballot, military service voters may request that a military service ballot be sent for all subsequent elections held during this calendar year.

(NOTE: MILITARY SERVICE VOTER CLAIMING MILITARY STATION AS HOME ADDRESS FOR VOTING PURPOSES MAY NOT USE MILITARY ABSENTEE BALLOT UNLESS REGISTERED TO VOTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH STATION IS LOCATED.)

Forms of application other than federal postcard application forms can be obtained from the undersigned.

DATE: February 25, 2000

ELAINE M. FLYNN
MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY COURT HOUSE
P.O. BOX 1110
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08903

\$104.50

1T 2/25/00

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PHONE NUMBER _____

SPORTS

Ed Niemczyk Youth Basketball League Scores

The Ed Niemczyk Basketball League consists of 420 boys and girls who play 24 games each Saturday at both the Middle School and the PAL Building.

A LEAGUE SCORES-FEB. 18

Warriors 43
Grizzlies 59
High scorers—Warriors: Jordan Lynch-4, Alex Ferraris-13, Dan Levene-10, Jessa Jones-8, Jonathan Chiang-6; Grizzlies: Danny Pollin-18, Chris Sanchez-18, Mike Chrysanthop-6, Kyle Prendergast-5.

Nuggets 28
Supersonics 50
High scorers—Nuggets: Dani-Jo Dimaria-8, Adam T. Mzoke-6, Amanda Fugate-5, Jason Grieb-5; Supersonics: Seven Sobel-10, Mike Espin, Danny Melick-8, Lisa

Sniscak-6, Matt Wells-6.

Bucks 37
Cavaliers 46
High scorers—Bucks: Ankit Patel-3, Alan Dummett-12, Gary Houston-11, Mike Salerno-5; Cavaliers: Jon Buggey-14, Sean Kean-11, Justin Toth-10, Andrew Cupido-6, Chris Horn-3.

Spurs 45
Rockets 25
High scorers—Spurs: Tommy Haus-8, Christine Strani-7, Danny Sierzege-6; Rockets: Mike Wiecezorek-12, Nick Green-11, Steve Janiszak-9, Mike Alocco-5.

B LEAGUE SCORES-FEB. 18

Pistons 16
Timberwolves 53
High scorers—Pistons: Carlie Kazimir-

4, Steven Tangorra-4, Matthew Fabino-4; Timberwolves: Allan Mazurak-17, Chris Bojarski-12, Mike Hanley-10, Kathleen Morgan-8, Walter Menna-4.

Magic 26
Bulls 30
High scorers—Magic: Chris McKinght-20, Ryan Taylor-4; Bulls: Vincent Velez-14, Danielle Arndt-12, Vincent Donato-4.

Nets 35
Knicks 39
High scorers—Nets: Mike Downes-16, Nick Jefferys-12, Matt Doell-4; Knicks: Anthony Roman-14, Erika Blaszkak-11, Keith Dezmin-5, Phu Huynh-5.

Heat 49
Cavaliers 34
High scorers—Heat: Nick Cesare-22, Coral Willis-13, Andrew Miller-6, Jonathan Liebl-6; Cavaliers: Robert Strani-16, Joe Denitzio-10, Nick Grego-4.

Jazz 36
Timberwolves 23
High scorers—Jazz: Daniel Piwowar-20, Chris Bakazan-10, Kevin Graham-6; Timberwolves: Adam Bianchi-13, Brian Murtagh-8.

Hornets 30
Raptors 38
High scorers—Hornets: Justin Basilone-16, Kevin Siedenburg-8, Jonathon Lazar-6, Raptors: Kyle Lendach-14, Mike Williams-10.

(More highlights/scores in next issue)

Obituaries

Edward C. Christophersen, Jr., 82

Edward C. Christophersen, Jr. died on Wednesday, Feb. 16, in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, Plainfield.

Born in East Orange, where he had resided for most of his life before moving to South Plainfield in 1993.

Mr. Christophersen had been employed as an expeditor for Elastic Stop Nut Company of Union for many years before retiring in 1981.

He was a member of the AF & AM Masons Lodge #186 of East Orange.

His wife, Gretta Christophersen, died in 1997.

Surviving are two sons, Erik Christophersen of South Plainfield and Leif Christophersen of North Brunswick.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the South Plainfield Rescue Squad.

Louise R. (Alexander) Amick, 58

Louise R. (Alexander) Amick died on Thursday, Feb. 17, in the

Cedar Oaks Care Center, South Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, where she had resided during her youth, Mrs. Amick moved to South Plainfield in 1967.

She was a homemaker, and had been a communicant of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, South Plainfield.

Her brother, Salvatore Alexander, died in 1988.

Surviving are her husband, James W. Amick, Sr.; a son, James W. Amick, Jr. of Woodbridge; her mother, Margaret Alexander of South Plainfield and a brother, Richard Alexander of South Plainfield. Also surviving is a grandson.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Amos Derflinger, 88

Amos Derflinger of South Plainfield died on Saturday, Feb. 19, at his home.

He was born in Plainfield and had resided in South Plainfield for the last 50 years.

Mr. Derflinger was a carpenter for Mack Motors in Plainfield for 25 years before retiring in 1967.

He was predeceased by his wife, Catherine Derflinger, who died in 1967 and his son and daughter, Joseph and Gail Derflinger, who both died in 1999.

He is survived by two sons, Edward of Lords Valley, Pa. and Robert of Piscataway; 14 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Bell Atlantic - New Jersey, Inc. requesting preliminary and final site plan approval and variances and waivers from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit Bell Atlantic - New Jersey, Inc. to install and operate two Controlled Environmental Vaults (C.E.V.'s) and an associated electric meter panel within an easement located on Block 528, Lot 46.08, 1001 Hadley Road on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

The specific relief requested by Bell Atlantic - New Jersey, Inc. includes the following:

- Preliminary and Final Site Plan Approval.
- Use Variance.
- Variances requested from Section 709.2 for the minimum front yard setbacks provided to the proposed CEV's and electric meter panel within the easement area (75 ft. required vs. approximately 33.3 ft and approximately 11.8 ft. provided.)

- Waivers from Article IX, Section 904 - Site Plan Details
 - 904.f - Survey Data, location of Existing Buildings, etc.
 - 904.j - Vehicular Circulation Pattern.
 - 904.k - On-Tract Parking
 - 904.l - Location of Existing or Proposed Lighting.
 - 904.m - Pavement Markings
 - 904.n - Location of Existing Structures Within 100 Feet of Tract Boundaries
 - 904.p - Location of Driveways Within 100 Feet of Site Boundaries
 - 904.q - Location of Refuse Disposal
 - 904.r - Evidence of Compliance With Federal, State or County Requirements
 - 904.s - Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan
 - 904.t - Preliminary Architectural Plans and Elevations
 - 904.u - Location and Types of Hydrants/Sprinkler Connections

- Waivers from Article IX, Section 907 - Design Standards
 - 907.1 - Traffic Circulation
 - 907.2 - Access Driveways
 - 907.3 - Off Street Parking and Loading Areas
 - 907.4 - Drainage Facilities
 - 907.5 - Sewage Disposal & Water System
 - 907.7(b & c) - Landscaping
 - 907.8 - Garbage, Refuse and Outside Storage
 - 907.9 - Retaining Walls
 - 907.10 - Curbs
 - 907.12 - Modified Site Development Standards for Inclusionary Development

- Waivers from Article IX, Section 912 - Site Plan Checklist
 - 912.1.4 - Building Floor Area & % Lot Coverage
 - 912.1.5 - Total Building Area
 - 912.1.6 - Total Open Space & % Lot Coverage
 - 912.1.7 - Total Impervious Area & % Lot Coverage
 - 912.1.8 - Number of Parking Stalls
 - 912.1.9 - Number of Employees
 - 912.1.10 - Parking Ratio
 - 912.1.11 - Proposed Building Data
 - 912.k - Architectural Building Elevations
 - 912.l - Proposed Site Plan Exhibit, Etc.
 - 912.o - Environmental Impact Statement
 - 912.u - Freehold Soil Conservation Service - Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Certification.
 - 912.v - NJDEP Approvals
 - 912.x - Special Approvals (Utilities, Etc.)
 - 912.9 - Parking and Loading Areas, Etc.
 - 912.14 - Off-Tract Improvements
 - 912.18 - Street Trees
 - 912.21 - Proposed Exterior Lighting Plan, etc.
 - 912.22 - Storm Water Runoff Control Plan
 - 912.23 - Sanitary Sewer Plan
 - 912.26 - Engineers Estimate, etc.
 - 912.27 - Performance Guarantees/Engineering Inspections Fees
 - 912.28 - As Built Drawings

- Any other waivers and/or variances that may be deemed appropriate by the Board.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

\$95.00 1T 2/25/2000

NOTICE Alcoholic Beverage Control

Take notice that application has been made to the Municipal Clerk of the Borough of South Plainfield to transfer Alcoholic Beverage Plenary Retail

Consumption License #1222-33-017-002 T/A Flanagan's Restaurant & Pub, with the premises located at 2501 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, heretofore issued to the MHB Corp. to ZZZ Inc., T/A Flanagan's Restaurant & Pub.

The person who will hold principle interest in this license is John Ziminski, 513 Runyon Avenue, Piscataway, NJ.

Objections to this transfer, if any, should be made in writing immediately to either the Director, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Trenton, NJ or to Municipal Clerk James V. Eckert, Borough of South Plainfield, 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

John Ziminski
513 Runyon Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854

\$70.00 2T 2/18-2/25/2000

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Lynne Glasser-Sward, PT requesting an interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to interpret my occupation as a physical therapist as a professional occupation, and a waiver of any site plan requirements.

The property is located at 1110 Hamilton Boulevard, Block 425, Lot 6, in the OBC-1 Zone.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 7, 2000, in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

\$35.00 1T 2/25/00

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

February 16, 2000

Public Notice is hereby given that he following action was taken by the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Borough of South Plainfield at its meeting held on February 15, 2000.

Case No. 1-00-Victor Hujack-Block 230; Lot 12; 179 Oak Manor Parkway-Applicant's request for a front yard setback variance to construct a second story addition is hereby GRANTED.

The Appointment of James Clarkin III, ESQ. as Zoning Board Attorney, was hereby GRANTED.

The Appointment of Janice J. Muccilli as Zoning Board Secretary, was hereby GRANTED.

Janice Muccilli
Secretary Zoning Board of Adjustment

\$21.00 1T 2/25/2000

NOTICE OF HEARING

Please be advised that an application for Preliminary and Final Subdivision Approval, together with any variance required in connection with said application, has been filed with the South Plainfield Planning Board for property located at:

Morris Avenue
Borough of South Plainfield
Block 113, Lots 1.01, 2, 4 and 5.01
Block 112, Lots 1 and 2.01 and
Block 111, Lot 1, 2, 3, and 4

The purpose of this application is to reapprove Preliminary and Final Subdivision Approval in connection with the construction of a senior citizen affordable residential facility containing approximately 101 units. Previously, Preliminary and Final Site Plan Approval as well as Preliminary Final Subdivision Approval were received February 28, 1995. The approvals were amended March 24, 1998. This application also includes any variances the Planning Board deems necessary as part of the original approval or any variance relative to this current application.

Any person interested in this application will have the opportunity to address the Board at the meeting of March 7, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. in the:

Council Chambers
Borough Hall
2480 Plainfield Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Plans are available for public inspection on any working day between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at:

Planning Board Office
2480 Plainfield Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Applicant:
SOUTH PLAINFIELD
URBAN RENEWAL, L.P.

\$40.00 1T 2/25/2000

By Cyrus N. Moon

Weekly Horoscope 2/25-3/2

PISCES 2/19-3/20 Your capacity for thought will be flooded with signals from the imagination. So this can be confusing if you're trying to negotiate a tricky business decision. So be aware. It might be better not to sign that contract hastily till you have all the facts. Use your imagination for ideas.

ARIES 3/21-4/19 Are you up for some work? This week is a period in which you are capable of a good deal of work. Your self-control is good and you may be considerably more patient than usual. Precision work and organizational tasks are favored. So challenge yourself.

TAURUS 4/20-5/20 Interactions this week, even on a casual basis, are apt to stimulate deeper responses than usual. They may lead to a closer examination of your reactions and motivations in dealing with other people. This is your way to see if you can exert influence and control in a partnership.

GEMINI 5/21-6/20 You may get the chance either to demonstrate or to acquire some unique or special talent or knowledge. Also opportunities to gain or use technical expertise and sociological skills. Success that occurs now is apt to result from not being in synch with anyone else. "Your Way"

CANCER 6/21-7/22 Unexpected surprises may come your way and cause considerable tension. Some change is needed in your life! This is a good time to pull it off. Exercise some freedom now! The trick you pull off is that the changes you make will not upset other things in your life that are sable.

LEO 7/23-8/22 Circumstances demand a show of will power, stamina and willingness on your part to investigate and get to the bottom of things. Do not reveal plans or betray a confidence. A direct confrontation may be necessary. Avoid a self-defeating attitude it can be your own undoing.

VIRGO 8/23-9/22 This will be a good week in which to deal with facts, before you make up your mind. You want and should see all sides of the question and use all the information so you can analyze the project your working on. Those of you that are scientist, teachers, and reporters will excel.

LIBRA 9/23-10/22 How about improving your physical appearance. You have the opportunity that can lead to romance. Someone may send you candies or flowers or why don't you take the opportunity to do it yourself to someone you been eyeing. And use your personal charm, it can work!

SCORPIO 10/23-11/21 After the last couple weeks here is a chance to increase physical strength and stamina. But you have to put your mind to it. Male relationships and contacts with men take on new meaning and depth, and it is likely to be a male that is responsible for benefits that come your way at this time.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21 Pick out that date this week for that party you were planning. Your optimism will be high so you may be a bit more extravagant than you should, or a little too demanding of others. So practice moderation. Spread your good feeling and see how infectious it can be.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19 Pay attention! Hard work and planning result in a valuable opportunity. If you are in a business or profession, your maturity and expertise can mean new clients and invitations to consult or lecture. So if you were not a hard worker in the past this is a good to get jump-started.

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18 This is a good time in which you can make advances in your work through development of skills or changing your methods. You can assert yourself more easily, and sexual activity is more deeply satisfying now, don't waste these opportunities. Look within yourself (inner power) find it and use it.

QUOTE: Smiles are the windows to see happiness, Happiness is the key to my heart.



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James A. Gustafson, Dir.
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by Robert Hunter

APREMONITION

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, words on the night before his untimely death make a cogent argument for our ability to sense impending death: "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And he's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land...So I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord."

While we cannot know the hour and date of our last day (despite those times when we feel we simply can't go on but always do somehow), each of us must be prepared for that day when it comes. Choosing the way in which we will be remembered is an opportunity none of us should let pass us by. For courteous and professional assistance in arranging memorial and burial services, call the JAMES W. CONROY FUNERAL HOME at 756-2800 to schedule a private consultation at our facilities, located at 2456 Plainfield Avenue in South Plainfield.

"Now comes the mystery."

-The last words of
Henry Ward Beecher



Joe Weingarten



Mike Ferguson



Tom Kean Jr.



Eric Urbano



Pat Walsh



Ken Gardner

Congressional Candidates Address Local Republicans

A candidates forum was held for those republicans seeking Rep. Bob Frank's 7th Congressional seat in the upcoming primary and general election. The forum, held at the American Legion, was sponsored by the South Plainfield Republican organization and was attended by many

interested residents.

Six candidates, who are running in the primary, were present and spoke. A stand-in represented Patrick Morisey, who was unable to attend. Candidates present were Joe Weingarten, Mike Ferguson, Tom Kean Jr., Eric Urbano, Ken Gardner and

Pat Walsh.

Each candidate was allotted 10 minutes to explain why they should be chosen, their qualifications and what they plan to if elected to the congressional seat. After their talk, an informal discussion was held with the audience.

POLICE REPORT

• Joseph J. Sempervive of Dunellen was arrested for shoplifting a microwave, blenders, and irons valued at \$179.96 from Bradlees.

• Deltex Transportation of North Bergen reported the theft of a trailer from the Odd Job lot at 200 Helen St. The trailer was dropped off at the Helen St. location on Thursday, Feb. 10. A representative of Deltex noticed it missing from the lot on the following Monday. The trailer was empty and was not scheduled to be loaded or transported to another warehouse. The Deltex representative felt that due to the heavy volume of business, the trailer may have been accidentally removed by another transport company.

• An off-duty Hillside police officer detained a man outside of an Oak Manor Pky. home. The officer, who lives on the road, observed the suspect enter the front yard and remove a case containing a power tool. The house is being renovated and the work crew had gone for lunch and left the tools on the lawn. The suspect was arrested by South

Plainfield PD.

• An employee of Kobo Products, So. Clinton Ave., reported receiving harassing phone calls. The employee played a voice mail back for police. A muffled male voice stated "you're gonna die." The suspect is unknown and there was no call trace available. No further information was available from the victim.

• A Piscataway resident reported the theft of a black plastic case from her car, containing approximately 100 CDs valued at \$1,500. The car was parked at Days Inn Hotel. Entry was gained by smashing the rear driver's side window.

• A Kennedy Rd. resident reported finding the ID of an unknown person in her mailbox. Also found in the box were a social security card and various credit cards. The owner is a resident of North Plainfield.

• Michele Glick of Iselin was arrested for shoplifting from The Home Depot. The suspect re-

moved a \$4 item from a box and put \$98.16 worth of light dimmers and doorbells. She proceeded to the cash register and paid for single item then came back into the store to return the items hidden in the box.

• Paul D. Buckley of Greenbrook was arrested for shoplifting plumbing fittings and rat killer from The Home Depot.

• A Hudson St. resident reported a harassing phone call from an unknown male suspect. The suspect called a business number at home and waited for the victim's voice mail before leaving an indecipherable message.

• Christine A. Miller, Colonia, an employee of Red Lobster on Hadley Rd., reported the theft of \$50 and a Visa/MAC card from her purse while she was at work. The purse was located under her coat in the utility room of the kitchen area of Red Lobster. The utility area is accessible to all employees and is unlocked.

South Plainfield
Observer

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Office experience, organized w/follow thru, good communication skills, compassion and professionalism required. No nights, no weekends, room to grow. Training available. Call: 908-756-6218. Fax resume to: 908-756-7944. 2/18-2/25

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100X200 BLDG. LOT/SOMERSET \$62,900. Residential neighborhood. Corner lot. Call Susan at Prudential Golden Key Realty, ext. 30. 732-560-0665.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

COPIES OF OBSERVER PHOTOS for sale. Call Pattie Abbott at 756-8011 or the Observer at 908-668-0010.

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South Plainfield Fire Department Officers and Awards

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Chief Joe Abbruzzese
Deputy Chiefs Larry DelNegro,
Tom Scalera
Captain's Andy Juttner,
Paul Melillo
Lieutenant's John Reed,
Mark Hall

Executive Officers

President Edward Silhanek
Vice President John Calvey
Treasurer Joe Sierzega
Secretary Adam Tennenbaum
Trustee's Wayne Winsmann,
Ken Bulla, Pete Eckel
Comm. Review Mike Gallagher
Board John Celentano, Sr.

Exempt Association Officers

President Charlie Siedenburgh
Vice President Joe Sierzega
Treasurer Floyd Bosse
Secretary Bob Harding
Trustees Paul Bosse,
Jack Kirchner, Bob Harding,
Lou DeFillipo and Ken Bulla

Service Awards

5 Years Phil Esposito,
Sal Giannotta,
Adam Tennenbaum,
Richard Thoma
10 years John Calvey
15 Years Paul Melillo
20 Years Joe Abbruzzese,
Pete McGrath, Gary Shelhimer
25 Years Ken Bulla

Awards & Plaques

Trophy—MVP for the S.P.V.F.C. Softball Team to Anthony Tomacheck and Gary Shelhimer; Trophy—MVP for the Horseshoe Tournament to John Reed and Larry Delnegro; President's Award to John Clentano, Sr.; Chief's Award to Sal Giannotta; Chief William Hamilton Medal to Pete Ackerman, Jim Hanlon, Lou DeFillipo and Bob Harding.

Fire Department Says Thank You

Members of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank the residents and businesses of South Plainfield who generously donated to the Fire Department in 1999.

We would like to give special thanks to the following organizations for their special contributions in 1999: Witty's for the 1999 Wine Tasting Event; Plunket Webster for donation of wood used to make cribbing for the Rescue Truck; Lehigh Utility for donation of sheet metal used on Rescue Unit 58.

St. Patrick's Day With a Little Imagination

Everyone can have a little luck of the Irish this St. Patrick's Day with a little imagination in the kitchen. Here are some fun ideas offered this season at home show cooking classes by Marie Markey.

- Add pistachio pudding mix to vanilla cake mix while preparing. Not only does it add a green tint to the cake, it tastes yummy.

- Prepare a green drink mix for the kids or tint lemonade with food coloring.

- Make your own green beer, just add a few drops of green food coloring to your favorite brew.

- Take prepared bread dough or one you made yourself and divide it into four sections. Roll three of the dough sections into balls and one into a tube. Place

on baking pan in the shape of a Shamrock and bake following bread dough directions.

- Use a green pepper as garnish or in a recipe. When selecting a pepper, look for a pepper with only 3 bumps. Slice the pepper in thin slices to create rings. Each slice resembles a Shamrock.

- Tint any icing green with food coloring, or make your own using pistachio pudding and whip cream. Follow directions for icing or pudding on dream whip box. Sprinkle with mini chocolate chips for an added treat.

For additional Cooking Tips or free cooking product info, call 908-755-3213 or email MMPMPRCHF@AOL.COM.

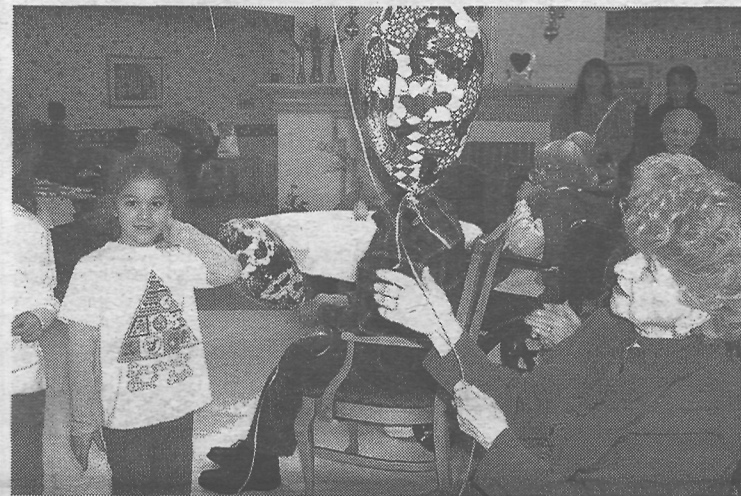
South Plainfield Scouting



Cub Scouts Tour Giants Stadium

Members of Cub Scout Pack #224 from Riley School stand on the sideline at Giants Stadium. The scouts toured the stadium, the arena and the stable and support areas of the Meadowlands Racetrack. They visited a locker room and the press areas and had other areas explained by their guide, such as what a player does on game day and off-days.

— Submitted by Bill Seesselberg



Brownies Sweeten Valentine's Day for Eldercare Residents

Kennedy School Brownie Troop 118 entertains the residents of Woodland Genesis Eldercare Center. The girls sold candy to raise money to purchase balloons to make Valentine's Day special for the residents.



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